

## **82<sup>nd</sup> CAB Pathfinders compete for Trooper, NCO of Year**

82<sup>nd</sup> CAB Public Affairs

By Staff Sgt. Jill People

FORT BRAGG, N.C. – Routine training to navigate cross-country on foot, establish and operate day and night helicopter landing zones and parachute drop zones, rappel from an aircraft, and provide air traffic control and air medical evacuation, can enhance the performance of any Paratrooper competing to be the best.

Such was the case for two such Paratroopers, Spc. Jonathon C. Carr and Staff Sgt. Richard Brown of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade's Pathfinder Company, as they participated in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Trooper and Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Competition at Fort Bragg, N.C., March 29 - 31.

"The competition was a lot of basic infantry techniques that I use for my job every day," said Carr, a pathfinder with Company F, 2<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Assault Battalion, 82<sup>nd</sup> CAB, and Booneville, Mo., native.

The Pathfinders, along with other Paratroopers throughout the division, were tested mentally and physically in areas such as physical fitness, marksmanship, day and night land navigation, warrior tasks and battle drills and promotional-style boards.

As a result of his experience as a Pathfinder, Brown, an Olive Branch, Ill., native, saw a significant enhancement in his performance of the warrior tasks and drills category of the competition.

"My job of personnel recovery for air medical evacuations helped me with the common tasks and tactical combat techniques," said Brown, who also serves as a Pathfinder with Co. F, 2-82 AASLT.

Whether in the spirit of competition or when fulfilling their role as Pathfinders, these 82<sup>nd</sup> CAB Troopers help to connect the Paratroopers of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division's Brigade Combat Teams with the aircraft and aviators of the Pegasus Brigade.

"I did my best to represent the 82<sup>nd</sup> CAB with my experience as a Pathfinder," said Brown.